

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/775,614

Examiner

Thanh D. Vo

Applicant(s)

SMITH ET AL.

Art Unit

2189

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the RCE filed on April 17, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 17, 18 and 20-29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

ALLOWANCE

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

1. With respect to claim 17, Nickolls et al. discloses an address shift register to serially receive address bits from a host, the address bits identifying a location to which to write data bits, or from which to read data bits (see claim 10, lines 48-52);

a data shift register, to serially receive data from the host during a write operation, and to serially transfer data to the host during a read operation (claim 10, lines 58-61);

an address holding register/address parallel register to receive a parallel transfer of address bits from the address shift register (see claim 10, lines 53-56); and

a data holding register/data parallel register, to receive a parallel transfer of data bits from the data shift register during a write operation, and to transfer in parallel data bits to the data shift register during a read operation (see claim 10, lines 62-64).

an address shift register to serially receive address bits from a host, the address bits identifying a location to which to write data bits, or from which to read data bits;

a data shift register, to serially receive data bit from the host during a write operation, and to serially transfer data bits to the host during a read operation,

an address holding register to receive a parallel transfer of address bits from the address shift register; and

a data holding register, to receive a parallel transfer of data bits from the data shift register during a write operation, and to transfer in parallel data bits to the data shift register during a read operation.

However, Nickolls et al. invention is directed to providing a dynamic and flexible mapping between a massively parallel array of processors and the ordered data streams of convention I/O devices. On the other hand, the current invention is directed to a laser driver of an optical storage device which includes an optical disk. Although Gushima et al. discloses a laser driver but there is no motivation to modify the laser driver disclosed by Gushima et al. in order to combine with the detail features of the laser driver being claimed in order to arrive at the current invention.

In light of the foregoing, claim 17 is in condition for allowance. Claims 18, 20-24, and 27-29 are also allowable since they are depending from an allowable claim.

2. With respect to claim 25, in addition to the similar reason for allowance set forth in claim 17 above, the prior art records further fail to disclose a combination of a "logic that receives at least two significant bits from the counter to thereby provide a level of confidence that a serial enable signal going high was not due to a glitch" with other limitations being claimed in claim 25.

In light of foregoing, claim 25 and its dependent claims 26 are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

Art Unit: 2189

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

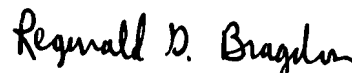
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh D. Vo whose telephone number is (571) 272-0708. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Reginald G. Bragdon can be reached on (571) 272-4204. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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05/11/2007


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